

TDD Phone (916) 741-4463
Telephone (916) 741-4027

April 12, 1990

03-PLA-65
PM T12.5/R23.5
03807-333800

Mr. James J. McKevitt
Field Supervisor
Division of Ecological Services
USDOI Fish and Wildlife Service
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803
Sacramento, California 95825

Dear Mr. McKevitt:

Route 65, Lincoln Bypass, Placer County-
Coordination For Species of Concern

Caltrans, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing an expressway/freeway project located in Placer County on State Route 65 between Post Mile (PM) 12.45 near Industrial Avenue and PM 23.5 between Sheridan and the Bear River Bridge (see enclosed Location Map). The project proposes modifying the existing adopted route by bypassing the City of Lincoln, and routing traffic through semi-rural and agricultural areas. This work includes constructing a two or four lane, access-controlled facility (or a combination of the two) on a new alignment. The bypass would likely consist of a 300-foot wide facility, including the median. Four interchanges would be constructed at project start, Moore Road, Nicholas Road, and project terminus.

Twelve alternatives have been proposed for the bypass: A, A3, A4, A5, C1, C2, D1, D2, E, F, T (widening of the existing route), and the no-build alternative (see enclosed Attachments 4 and 5). The E, D2, T, and AFD alternatives have been dropped from further consideration because of: exorbitant cost; failure to meet the basic need and purpose of the project to reduce congestion and improve safety; and/or excessive environmental and socioeconomic impacts.

Caltrans is the lead agency for environmental clearance for these projects under NEPA and CEQA. Results of a contractor's work will be used to prepare a Natural Environment Study as backup material for the Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the project. This data will also be used to assess project impacts on biological resources.

Mr. James J. McKevitt
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Wetlands are being delineated according to the Unified Federal Method (as on Attachment 5). We are aware of stream crossings at Orchard Creek, Ingram Slough, Auburn Ravine, Bunkam Slough, Markam Ravine, Coon Creek, and Yankee Slough.

In accordance with the terms of the 1988 Memorandum of Understanding between Caltrans and the Fish and Wildlife Service, we are requesting that you identify the fish and wildlife resource concerns the Service may have with this project, and recommended natural environment studies we may need to undertake. Please include a list of threatened or endangered federally listed, proposed and candidate species which might occur within the project area, and locations of designated or proposed critical habitats.

Should you need additional information or if you would like to discuss this project further, please contact either Terri Pencovic, District Biologist, telephone (916) 741-4199, or Daryl Noble, Environmental Coordinator, telephone (916) 741-4573.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Steve Kirkpatrick, Chief
Project Studies Branch

Enclosures

cc: SESO, FWS, Sacramento, CA, w/ encl.

bcc Debbie Martin, BEAK
Terri Pencovic, Env. Br. B
Daryl Noble, Env. Br. B

TP/DN:ks

Filename: PLA65FWS



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
Sacramento Field Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1823
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

In Reply Refer To:
PPN 626

June 29, 1990

Steve Kirkpatrick
California Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 911
Marysville, California 95901

Subject: California Department of Transportation, Route 65, Lincoln Bypass,
Placer County, California; Information Request

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

The Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the information request and has the following comments and recommendations. The proposed project consists of modification of the existing Route 65 by bypassing the city of Lincoln and routing traffic through rural and agricultural areas.

The project area consists of rolling grassland interspersed with seasonal wetlands, including vernal pools, intermittent and perennial streams, and riparian and emergent wetlands which would be directly impacted by the proposed development. In addition, any wetlands not directly lost would have lower habitat values due to increased human intrusion. We are especially concerned that the proposed project will have growth-inducing impacts similar to those which occurred along the Highway 65 Bypass. In addition, we are aware that at least Auburn Ravine does support chinook salmon and perhaps steelhead trout. Some of the other streams potentially impacted may also support salmon and steelhead.

The Fish and Wildlife Service encourages all efforts to protect, improve and restore fish, wildlife and naturally functioning aquatic and wetland ecosystems of our Nation. It is also our responsibility to provide recommendations to protect and restore populations of threatened and endangered species. Because of our interest in the biological integrity of our Nation's waters, we generally recommend against a project when its construction would result in the destruction of wetland habitat values and is not water dependent. The proposed project is not water dependent.

Over 90 percent of California's wetlands have been lost due to past agricultural conversion, urban development, and flood control activities. Wetland habitat on the project site provides important resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for many species of birds including migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Because of the value of the wetland habitat to migratory birds and the scarcity of these habitat types, the Service recommends there be no net loss of in-kind habitat values or acres.

The following candidate species could be found on the project site: Boggs lake hedge-hyssop (Gratiola heterosepala), Category 2; legumere (Legumere limosa), Category 2; and, Sacramento orcutt grass (Orcuttia viscida), Category 1; California linderiella (Linderiella occidentalis) Category 2; vernal pool fairy shrimp (Branchinecta new sp.), Category 2; greater western mastiff bat, (Eumops perotis californicus), Category 2; California red-legged frog (Rana aurora draytoni), Category 2. In addition, the proposed project area should be surveyed for valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmoceris californicus dimorphus). If it is determined that the proposed development may affect a listed species, formal consultation should be initiated pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. If the proposed action or any of its alternatives may adversely affect any candidate species, we recommend that you seek technical assistance on how to avoid impacts to these species.

We understand some plant surveys have been conducted; however, we strongly recommend that these floristic surveys continue. The distribution of Orcuttia viscida can vary on a yearly basis. For instance, Solano grass (Tuctoria mucronata), within the Orcuttieae tribe, has shown extensive variation in its presence and distribution over a period of years.

The Council of Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act define mitigation to include: 1) avoiding the impact; 2) minimizing the impact; 3) rectifying the impact; 4) reducing or eliminating the impact over time; and 5) compensating for impacts. The Service supports and adopts this definition of mitigation and considers the specific elements to represent the desirable sequence of steps in the mitigation planning process. Accordingly, we maintain that the best way to mitigate for adverse biological impacts is to avoid them whenever possible.

When projects impacting waterways or wetlands are deemed acceptable to the Service, full mitigation is recommended for any fish and wildlife value losses shown to be unavoidable. However, as directed by Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act, we believe the project proponent must first demonstrate that there are no other less damaging, practicable alternatives to the proposed project that would achieve the basic project purpose.

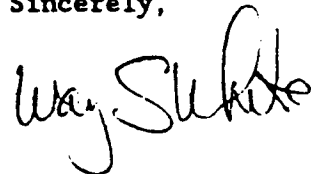
We recommend that the following information be included in your draft Statement/Report:

1. The draft Statement/Report should include evaluations of a wide range of alternatives. The alternatives should include at least one which would not involve fill of wetlands.
2. A complete description of all the various habitat types on the project site should be provided in the document. Any wetlands the Corps of Engineers did not exert its jurisdiction over should also be identified in the document. We also recommend that hydrological and biological studies be undertaken to determine what wetland functions may be affected by the proposed project, and how such impacts could be avoided.

3. The impacts of each alternative on fish, wildlife and their habitats must be thoroughly discussed in the document. The information should include any proposed mitigation for unavoidable impacts. In addition, the mechanisms for maintaining the integrity of avoided wetlands should be included in the document. For example, does the mitigation plan include adequate buffers, controls on increased human intrusion, and maintenance of wetland hydrology? Any mitigation plan (for both created and avoided wetlands) should have monitoring provisions (hydrological, plant cover and wildlife use), a contingency plan if the mitigation is not successful, long term operation and maintenance provisions and should identify a management agency.
4. The document must include a table indicating the acreage of each habitat type which would be affected by each of the alternatives. The number of wetland acres which would be filled or otherwise altered is especially critical.
5. There should be a discussion of the cumulative impacts of this project when considered with other impacts within Sacramento County and the watershed. In addition, the growth-inducing impacts of the proposed project should be identified.
6. Adequate surveys should be continued by qualified biologists for federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species. Results from these surveys should be included in the document. In addition, we recommend that the document identify vernal pools which could potentially support Orcuttia viscida X
7. Stream surveys should be conducted for chinook salmon and steelhead trout. A determination of whether the streams to be impacted have potential chinook salmon or steelhead habitat should also be made.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Cay C. Goude at (916) 968-4613 regarding general fish and wildlife issues, or Peggie Kohl at (916) 978-4866 regarding threatened or endangered species.

Sincerely,



Wayne S. White
Field Supervisor

cc: Reg. Dir., AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR
Dir., CDFG, Sacramento, CA
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Reg. II, Rancho Cordova
COE, Sacramento
NMFS, Santa Rosa
CRWQCB, Sacramento
Sacramento County, Environmental Section



IN REPLY REFER TO:

1-1-98-SP-1738

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130
Sacramento, California 95821-6340

August 13, 1998

Mr. Ken Van Velsor
California Department of Transportation
District 3 , Sacramento Area Office - MS 41
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, California 94274-0001


Subject: Species List for Highway 65 Bypass, Lincoln, Placer County, California

Dear Mr. Van Velsor:

We are sending the enclosed list in response to your letter of July 21, 1998 request for information about endangered and threatened species (Enclosure A). The list covers the following U.S. Geological Survey 7½ minute quads: Roseville, Lincoln, and Sheridan .

Please read *Important Information About Your Species List* (enclosed). It explains how we made the list and describes your responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act. If you have questions that are not answered by the enclosure, please call Jan Knight, Sacramento Valley Branch Chief, at (916) 979-2120. For the fastest response to species list requests, address them to the attention of the section 7 office assistant at this address.

Sincerely,


for David L. Harlow
Acting Field Supervisor

Enclosures

ENCLOSURE A

Endangered and Threatened Species that May Occur in
or be Affected by Projects in the Following Selected Quads

August 13, 1998

QUAD : 528A LINCOLN

Listed Species

Birds

American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (E)
Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)
bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)
vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Proposed Species

Fish

Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PE)
Central Valley fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PT)
Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (C)

QUAD : 528A LINCOLN

Species of Concern

Mammals

- spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
- greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
- small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
- long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
- fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
- long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
- Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
- San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)
- Pacific western big-eared bat, *Plecotus townsendii townsendii* (SC)

Birds

- tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
- western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugea* (SC)
- ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
- white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chihi* (SC)

Reptiles

- northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)
- California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

- western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

- green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
- longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Plants

- Ahart's rush, *Juncus leiospermus* var. *ahartii* (SC)

QUAD : 528B SHERIDAN

Listed Species

Birds

- American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (E)
- Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)
- bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

- giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

- California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

- winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
- delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
- Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)

Invertebrates

- vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)
- vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
- valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Proposed Species

Fish

- Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PE)
- Central Valley fall-run chinook crit hab, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PT)
- Central Valley fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PT)
- Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Birds

- mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (C)

QUAD : 528B SHERIDAN

Species of Concern

Mammals

- greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
- small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
- long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
- fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
- long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
- Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
- San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)
- Pacific western big-eared bat, *Plecotus townsendii townsendii* (SC)

Birds

- tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
- western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugea* (SC)
- ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
- white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chihi* (SC)

Reptiles

- northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)

Amphibians

- western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

- green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
- longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

QUAD : 528D ROSEVILLE

Listed Species

Birds

- American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (E)
- Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)

QUAD : 528D ROSEVILLE

Listed Species

Birds

bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)

Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)

valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Proposed Species

Fish

Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)

small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)

long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)

fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)

QUAD : 528D ROSEVILLE

Species of Concern

Mammals

- long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
- Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
- San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)
- Pacific western big-eared bat, *Plecotus townsendii townsendii* (SC)

Birds

- tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
- western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugea* (SC)
- ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
- white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chihi* (SC)

Reptiles

- northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)
- California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

- western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

- green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
- longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Plants

- hispid bird's-beak, *Cordylanthus mollis ssp. hispidus* (SC)
- legenere, *Legenere limosa* (SC)

ENCLOSURE A

Endangered and Threatened Species that May Occur in or be Affected by
Projects in the Area of the Following California County or Counties

August 12, 1998

PLACER COUNTY

Listed Species

Birds

American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (E)

Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)

bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)

Lahontan cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) clarki henshawi* (T)

Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)

valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Plants

Truckee barberry, *Berberis sonnei* (E)

Proposed Species

Fish

Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (PE)

Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (C)

Candidate Species

Amphibians

California tiger salamander, *Ambystoma californiense* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)

greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)

Sierra Nevada snowshoe hare, *Lepus americanus tahoensis* (SC)

Pacific fisher, *Martes pennanti pacifica* (SC)

small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)

long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)

fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)

long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)

Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)

San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

pale Townsend's big-eared bat, *Plecotus townsendii pallescens* (SC)

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Plecotus townsendii townsendii* (SC)

Birds

northern goshawk, *Accipiter gentilis* (SC)

grasshopper sparrow, *Ammodramus savannarum* (SC)

western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugea* (SC)

American bittern, *Botaurus lentiginosus* (SC)

ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)

lark sparrow, *Chondestes grammacus* (SC)

white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chihi* (SC)

California spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis occidentalis* (SC)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)

southwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata pallida* (SC)

California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Species of Concern

Amphibians

- Mount Lyell salamander, *Hydromantes platycephalus* (SC)
- foothill yellow-legged frog, *Rana boylei* (SC)
- mountain yellow-legged frog, *Rana muscosa* (SC)
- western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

- green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
- river lamprey, *Lampetra ayresi* (SC)
- Pacific lamprey, *Lampetra tridentata* (SC)

Invertebrates

- Lake Tahoe benthic stonefly, *Capnia lacustra* (SC)
- Sagehen Creek goracean caddisfly, *Goeracea oregona* (SC)
- Shirttail Creek stonefly, *Megaleuctra sierra* (SC)
- South Forks ground beetle, *Nebria darlingtoni* (SC)
- spiny rhyacophilan caddisfly, *Rhyacophila spinata* (SC)

Plants

- Carson Range rock-cress, *Arabis rigidissima* var. *demota* (SC)
- Red Hills soaproot, *Chlorogalum grandiflorum* (SC)
- hispid bird's-beak, *Cordylanthus mollis* ssp. *hispidus* (SC)
- Donner Pass buckwheat, *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *torreyanum* (SC)
- Plumas ivesia, *Ivesia sericoleuca* (SC)
- Ahart's rush, *Juncus leiospermus* var. *ahartii* (SC)
- legenere, *Legenere limosa* (SC)
- long-petaled lewisia, *Lewisia longipetala* (SC)
- saw-toothed lewisia, *Lewisia serrata* (SC)
- Stebbins' phacelia, *Phacelia stebbinsii* (SC)